B4 Cloud Computing and Electronic Discovery: Challenges in Collection of Large Scale Digital Evidence With Internet-Based Storage, Applications, and Infrastructure

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After attending this presentation, attendees will understand how the evolution of information processing from traditional storage systems to distributed cloud computing has impacted electronic discovery. Many organizations have transitioned from storing data on its premises to so- called "cloud computing" environments in which data, applications or infrastructure is in remotely dedicated or shared locations accessed through the internet. The increasing reliance on cloud computing has a significant impact on planning and performing electronic discovery in civil actions.

This presentation will impact the forensic science community by reviewing the increasing challenges to the collection of large-scale digital evidence in civil cases caused by the evolving use of internet-based remote computation, storage and infrastructure - commonly known as "Cloud Computing" services.

As more and more organizations make use of various forms of so- called cloud computing (Software as a Service, Internet-based storage, Infrastructure on Demand, etc.) traditional approaches to the collection of information subject to discovery in civil cases will present challenges of increasing complexity to the forensic science community. Ready or not, this is happening, and this presentation will help with an is to conduct an extensive comparison and exploration of the relation   understanding of the challenge and approaches to evolving solutions.

In the United States, the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and similar rules in other countries recognize that various forms of electronically stored information can be vital in civil litigation. But as the technology of the internet has evolved, organizations are processing and storing data not only in their own data centers, but in shared facilities, virtual systems, and increasingly, in storage and processing facilities accessed over the internet.

This presentation will show how these so-called "cloud computing" services affect the process of electronic discovery, from identifying where and how information relevant to the litigation is stored, to how it can be collected from remote sources in a forensically acceptable manner.

Electronic discovery can involve thousands – or even millions of documents. Such volumes, particularly where the data may be in many places and in many forms represents an evolving threat to the ability of the forensic science to keep up with the evolution of information processing.

Electronic Discovery, Cloud Computing, Civil Litigation